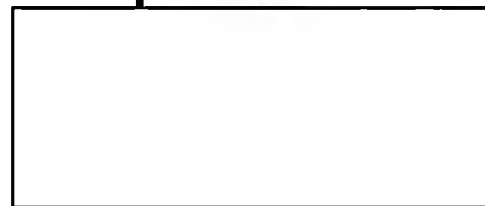


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# Central Intelligence Bulletin

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**Top Secret**

204

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24 September 1973

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/10/15 : CIA-RDP79T00975A025300060001-4

Approved For Release 2003/10/15 : CIA-RDP79T00975A025300060001-4

25X1

24 September 1973

# Central Intelligence Bulletin

## CONTENTS

FEDAYEEN-SYRIA: Fedayeen concerned over moves by moderate Arab states. (Page 1)

CAMBODIA: Military activity has subsided recently. (Page 3)

25X6

DENMARK: Ruling party sticks with left-of-center course despite party's fading popular support. (Page 6)

25X1

FOR THE RECORD: (Page 9)

25X1

FEDAYEEN-SYRIA: Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) leaders have concluded two days of intensive talks designed to forge a common policy and to avert further splits within the divided fedayeen movement. The talks were prompted by PLO concerns that moderate Arab states are abandoning the fedayeen and that Syria is attempting to control the movement.

On 22 September the PLO issued a statement demanding that the fedayeen be allowed to re-enter Jordan as part of an effort to create an effective "eastern front." The statement criticized the moderate Arab states' disregard of Palestinian interests in their recent rapprochement with Jordan and condemned those who now seek to divide or control the fedayeen.

The PLO insistence on the right to re-enter Jordan is primarily a protest against recent moves by Jordan, Syria, and Egypt to ignore Palestinian interests in pursuing their own goals. PLO Chairman Yasir Arafat had hoped that Presidents Sadat and Asad would negotiate a fedayeen presence in Jordan at the time of their summit with King Husayn earlier this month. Vehement fedayeen criticism of their failure to do so has strained PLO relations with Egypt, prompted anti-fedayeen sanctions in Syria,

25X1

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24 Sep 73

Central Intelligence Bulletin

1

25X1

Largely to protect his own leadership position, Arafat is determined not to escalate the fedayeen's present internal tensions. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] on 22 September he denied publicly that differences exist between Fatah and Saiqa. Relations between the two largest fedayeen groups will not soon improve, but the leadership of the PLO has a collective interest in preventing fighting between the groups. [REDACTED]

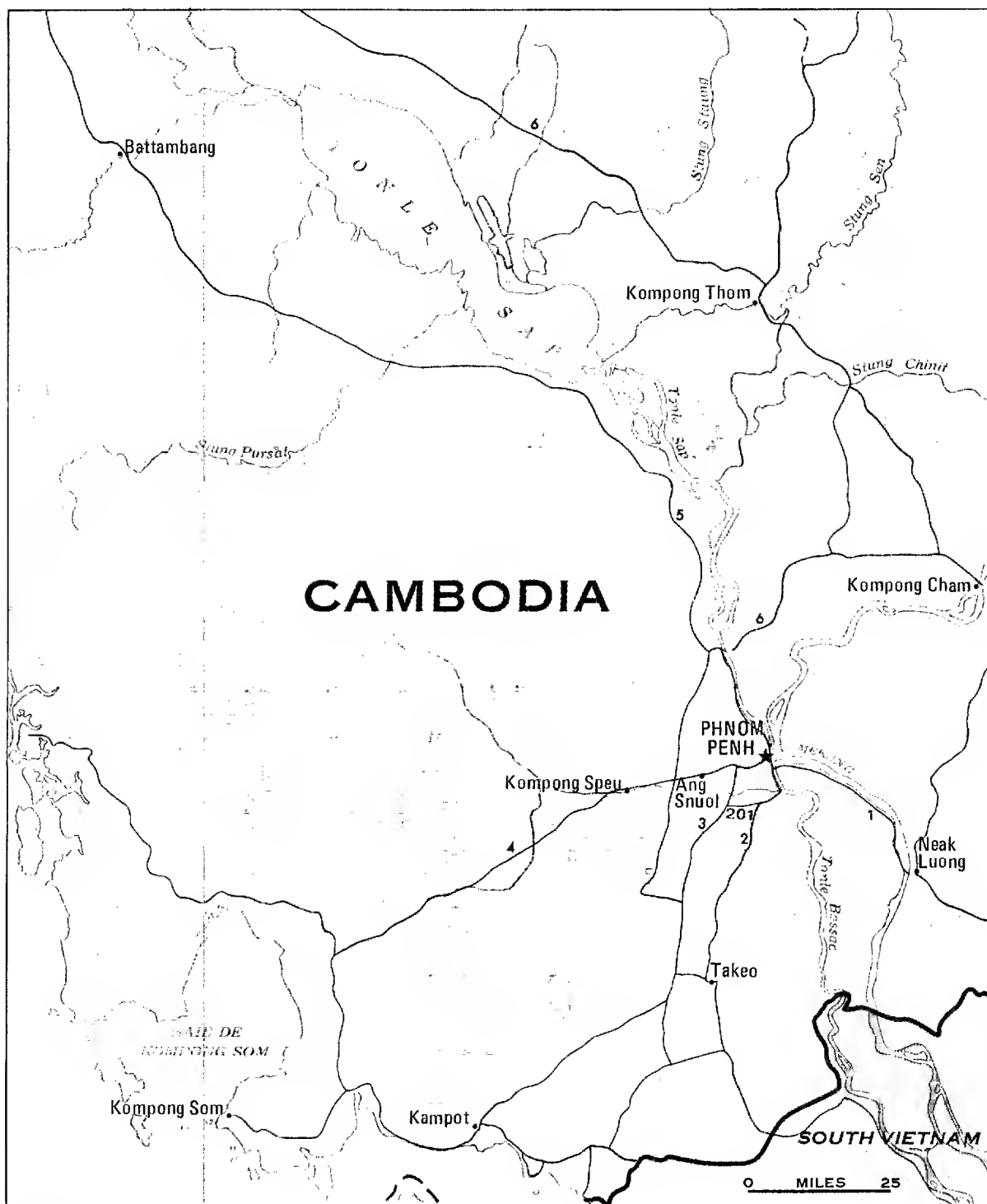
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24 Sep 73

Central Intelligence Bulletin

2

25X1



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CAMBODIA: Military activity has subsided in the past several days.

The provincial capital of Kompong Cham continues to be the target of daily shellings, but no major ground attacks have occurred in over two weeks. Government defenders at Kompong Cham have expanded their perimeter west and north of the city against only moderate resistance. A small government force remains isolated at the airstrip just northwest of the city, but these troops are well entrenched and have beaten off several Communist ground probes. Supplies are arriving at Kompong Cham aboard regularly scheduled Mekong River convoys, and US officials who visited the city last week reported that civilian life was beginning to return to normal.

Cambodian Army units in the Phnom Penh area are also getting a breather. Communist units withdrew from Route 1 southeast of the capital last week and have not returned to the attack. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Flooding has apparently forced insurgents on the opposite side of Phnom Penh to abandon positions near the town of Ang Snuol on Route 4. Government operations north and south of the road have met little resistance, and military convoys have begun moving between the capital and the seaport of Kompong Som for the first time in over three weeks.

The Cambodian Army command is planning to commit armor and fresh troops to revive its operations to reopen Route 5, a portion of which remains closed about 30 miles north of Phnom Penh. A Communist defector claims that six insurgent battalions are taking part in the campaign along this highway.

[REDACTED]

25X1

24 Sep 73

Central Intelligence Bulletin

3

25X1

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DENMARK: The ruling Social Democrats have chosen to stick with their left-of-center course, despite clear signs that the party continues to suffer steady erosion of popular support.

In the key vote at the quadrennial party congress last week, the delegates turned down a proposal by the conservative wing to split the posts of party chairman and prime minister. The proposal was defeated, in part, because the conservatives could not rally behind a single figure to challenge Prime Minister Jorgensen.

The party's left wing, which had more support among delegates than expected, rallied behind Jorgensen instead of reopening old wounds on such questions as Denmark's membership in the European Communities. A confrontation over the EC was avoided by a proposal to establish an ad hoc committee to resolve differences over the Danish role in the organization. As part of the compromise proposal, the party acknowledged that Denmark's EC membership provides a means by which to achieve Social Democratic political goals, and stated that an effort would be made to consult with other Nordic states on problems under consideration by the EC.

On security issues, a resolution to leave NATO was easily defeated, but a peculiarly Danish approach again emerged. The party pledged to work within NATO to advance detente and to oppose any expansion of NATO's tasks or commitments. The resolution also deplored the colonial policy of Portugal and the nondemocratic regime in Greece--both countries NATO members.

The Social Democrats' failure to panic over their sagging fortunes may not be as suicidal as it at first appears. Although opinion polls show that the party has lost more than ten percent of its supporters since the 1971 election and now commands the

24 Sep 73

Central Intelligence Bulletin

6

25X1

support of less than 30 percent of the voters, the traditional nonsocialist parties have not been the primary beneficiaries. Rather, a new anti-tax party has cut into the support of almost all the established parties. The Social Democrats probably see this phenomenon as a protest movement that will evaporate as quickly as it formed. They no doubt hope the new party will not be a serious contender two years hence, by which time new elections must be held.

25X1

24 Sep 73

*Central Intelligence Bulletin*

7

25X1

25X1

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## FOR THE RECORD\*

Chile: The Christian Democratic Party (PDC) is still inclined to cooperate with the junta but has warned military leaders against "imposing" a new constitution without a plebiscite. The president of the PDC, the nation's largest party, told the press that the coup must not be used by the ultraright to turn back history and establish a "reactionary dictatorship." The party's stand is probably intended to caution the generals against authoritarian measures that would adversely affect PDC interests. [REDACTED]

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USSR - West Germany: West German Foreign Minister Scheel has agreed to visit the USSR between 30 October and 5 November. Prior to the visit, middle-level officials from both countries will meet to review all the questions concerning Berlin that are disturbing bilateral relations. [REDACTED]

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Iceland-UK: The collision of a British frigate with an Icelandic gunboat on Saturday increases the likelihood that Iceland will ask for the withdrawal of some British diplomatic personnel. The incident also will make it more difficult for Reykjavik to compromise in the upcoming negotiations on the future of the US-manned Icelandic Defense Force. [REDACTED]

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*\*These items were prepared by CIA without consultation with the Departments of State and Defense.*

24 Sep 73

Central Intelligence Bulletin

9

25X1

**Top Secret**



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